Based on the recommendation of Selection Committee, the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has issued offers of appointment to 83 candidates.

Starvation deaths

2690. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report on death due to starvation from the State Governments and Union Territories during the last four years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Cultivation of Soyabean

2691. DR. SHRIKANT RAM CHANDRA JICHKAR:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the States where the cultivation of Soyabean is being undertaken;

(b) the total area of land brought under such cultivation during each of the last three years; yearwise;

(c) the total production of soyabean during the above period, state-wise;

(d) the steps being taken by Government to increase the cultivation of Soyabean; and

(e) the details of the progress made in setting up of soyabean based industries like (Soya-milk, Soya-Cheese) etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN): (a) The major soyabean growing States are Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka and Gujarat.

(b) and (c) State-wise area and production for the last three years is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(d) To increase the cultivation of oilseeds including soyabean, Oilseeds Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation in 22 States covering 337 districts. Assistance is provided under OPP for production and distribution of seeds, distribution of sprinkler sets, improved farm implements, Rhyzobium culture and PSB, gypsum and pyrites, etc. Further, to propagate the production technology, frontline demonstrations are organised by the ICAR and block demonstrations by the State Departments of Agriculture.

(e) Much progress has not been made in setting up of soyabean based industries like soya-milk and soya-cheese. Some entrepreneurs have started production of soya products on a limited scale. However, 98 soyabean processing industries have been set up with an installed capacity of 70 lakh tonnes per annum.